

# DINOSAUR

## UTAH

LIFE ELEVATED™

Allosaurus sculpture, Utah's state fossil, is featured at the Blanding Dinosaur Museum, Steve Czerkas

### UTAH OFFICE OF TOURISM

Utah's inhabitants of the distant past weren't nearly as friendly as those of today. Featuring the world's most complete exposed record of the earth's geologic history, this is THE dinosaur state - a real life "Jurassic Park."

- ★ See the fossil records of more dinosaur species than any other state
- ★ Visit museums housing the world's largest collection of mounted dinosaur skeletons
- ★ Explore the most complete record of prehistoric life than any other geographic area on the planet
- ★ Experience the world's most famous dinosaur fossil quarry at Dinosaur National Monument



Utahraptor, Utah's unofficial state dinosaur, CEU Prehistoric Museum

### Northern Utah Dino-sites



**1- Ogden's George S. Eccles Dinosaur Park** This eight-acre outdoor museum is unique in its exhibition of full-bodied creatures of the Dinosaur Age. See prehistoric crawlers, predators, marine creatures and flying reptiles dating from the Permian through Cretaceous periods. Realistic sculptures of more than 125 dinosaurs fill the park in a native Utah setting, all reproduced based on the findings of fossil skeletal remains. You can hear the dinosaurs walking and roaring, the crash of trees brought down by powerful herbivores and the calls of Pteranodons gliding through the air brought to you by a high quality sound system throughout the park. Also featured is a new 16,000 square foot working museum including exhibit space, a large paleontology laboratory, offices and a lecture hall. 1544 East Park Boulevard, Ogden, 801-393-DINO, open daily most of the year; [www.dinosaurpark.org](http://www.dinosaurpark.org)

**2- BYU Earth Science Museum** The Brigham Young University Earth Science Museum in Provo is world-renowned for its extensive collections of late Jurassic and early Cretaceous dinosaurs, including Supersaurus, Torvosaurus and Utahraptor. Exhibits include the largest and smallest dinosaurs, a 150-million-year-old Allosaurus egg, fossil plants, minerals and an array of dinosaur, pterosaur and Ice Age mammal skeletons. Observe paleontologists working the lab, touch dinosaur skin and watch videos of our scientists collecting in the field. Free admission. 1683 North Canyon Road, Brigham Young University, Provo, 801-378-3680, [cpms.byu.edu/ESM](http://cpms.byu.edu/ESM), open year-round Mon-Fri

**5- Dinosaur National Monument** In 1909, 20 miles east of Vernal, paleontologist Earl Douglass discovered a 200-foot-long sandbar layered with prehistoric plant and animal fossils. A new visitor center is under construction that will protect more than 1,500 dinosaur bones left exposed in the sandstone wall. Beyond the quarry, the Monument offers trails, tours and activities which highlight the area's unique geology, history, wildlife and rugged beauty. The Split Mountain and Green River Campgrounds are located near the Quarry Visitor Center. Twenty miles east of Vernal at Jensen, (435) 781-7700, [www.nps.gov/dino](http://www.nps.gov/dino), monument open daily year-round

**6- Utah Field House of Natural History State Park Museum** The Uinta Fossil Journey begins in the museum rotunda where the giant Diplodocus skeleton, 90 feet from tip to tail, looms about and greets visitors. A rock wall contains a small ravine where visitors may try to distinguish fossils from among the washed out pebbles and debris. A dig site simulation illustrates the science and sequence of Jurassic fieldwork, including discovery and removal of fossils from rock. In the

**3- Utah Museum of Natural History** The state Museum of Natural History offers one of the country's best dinosaur exhibits featuring fierce Allosaurus, Camptosaurus and the rare Stegosaurus. A highlight is looking through the glass enclosed fossil prep lab, often with volunteers bringing their work into the gallery for visitors to see and hear their stories. Look for a brand new \$100 million facility to open on Salt Lake's east bench in 2010. 1390 E. Presidents Circle, University of Utah, Salt Lake City, 801-581-6927, [www.umnh.utah.edu](http://www.umnh.utah.edu), open daily year-round

**4- The North American Museum of Ancient Life** Located at Thanksgiving Point in Lehi, this is the world's largest collection of mounted dinosaur skeletons, exhibiting more than 60 mounted dinosaur specimens and thousands of ancient fossils. The museum also features a six story 70 mm movie screen and theater, featuring a variety of 3D movies and other specialty films. Fifty interactive, hands-on displays within the exhibit halls are designed to immerse guests in the subject matter, using expansive murals, soundtracks, plants and real streams with live fish. Guests are invited to touch actual fossils and feel real dinosaur bones and eggs. A working paleontology lab operated by Western Paleontology, Inc. is located within the museum and can be observed by guests as they tour the exhibit halls. 3003 North Thanksgiving Way, Lehi, 888-672-6040, open year-round Mon-Sat, [www.thanksgivingpoint.com/museum](http://www.thanksgivingpoint.com/museum)

Fossil Lab, visitors can use a brush to reveal replicas of fossil specimens. The grand Jurassic Gallery reveals life 145 million years ago with three large and impressive dinosaur skeletons. The museum also includes special changing exhibits, a classroom facility and a new outdoor dinosaur garden. 496 East Main Street, Vernal, (435) 789-3799, [www.stateparks.utah.gov](http://www.stateparks.utah.gov), open daily year-round

**7- Dinosaur Diamond Prehistoric Byway** Created in 1997/98, this 512-mile diamond-shaped loop traverses the cities of Vernal, Roosevelt, Duchesne, Helper, Price, Green River and Moab in Utah; and the communities of Grand Junction, Fruita, Rangely and Dinosaur in Colorado. Dig sites, museums and scenery abound throughout this national scenic byway. The Utah sites, along this roadway, are represented in this piece. [www.dinosaurdiamond.org](http://www.dinosaurdiamond.org)



Pteranodon, the flying reptiles, Ogden Eccles Dinosaur Park



Predator vs. prey at the Utah Museum of Natural History



Fossil Preparation Exhibit, Utah Museum of Natural History



North American Museum of Ancient Life is the Largest Dinosaur Exhibit in the nation



Dinosaur National Monument Fossil Quarry

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Dueling Urtatherium, post dinosaur mammals at Utah Field House Museum



Utah's state fossil, the Allosaurus, Cleveland-Lloyd Dinosaur Quarry visitor center, Kelly Rigby



Fossil display at Moab's Dan O'Laurie Museum



The new Interpretive Center at Grand Staircase-Escalante National Monument



Dino track, St. George Dinosaur Discovery Site at Johnson Farm

## Southeastern Utah Dino-sites



**8- College of Eastern Utah Prehistoric Museum** This is the museum that discovered the Utahraptor, Utah's adopted state dinosaur and unwitting star of Steven Spielberg's *Jurassic Park*. The CEU Prehistoric Museum is one of four accredited museums in the state, and all specimens are either actual fossil or cast from fossils in the museum's collection. The museum has eight complete skeletons from the Jurassic and Cretaceous periods, the bones of which may be seen on display. The collection also contains many dinosaur tracks removed from local coal mines, dinosaur eggs and other fossils. The CEU Prehistoric Museum currently operates ten dinosaur fossil quarries. This museum is a treasure trove of locally dug dinosaur bones! 155 East Main Street, Price, 800-817-9949, [museum.ceu.edu](http://museum.ceu.edu), open daily, April 1–Sept. 30/Mon–Sat, October 1–March 31

**9- Museum of the San Rafael** The Museum of the San Rafael in Castle Dale tells stories of a primitive past long buried under shifting soils. A replica of a fossilized dinosaur egg believed to contain an embryo is part of the collection, as well as skeletons of Allosaurus, Chasmosaurus, Albertosaurus and the great skull of Tyrannosaurus rex. 96 North 100 East, Castle Dale, 435-381-5252, [www.museumsofsanrafael.org](http://www.museumsofsanrafael.org), open year-round Mon–Sat

**10- Mill Canyon (Moab) Dinosaur Trail** Contains numerous bones and petrified trees and has excellent signs at the trailhead and along the trail.

**11- Copper Ridge (Moab) Dinosaur Trackway Site** Tracks show a sauropod making a right turn as well as meat-eating theropod tracks. Moab Field Office, Bureau of Land Management, 82 East Dogwood, Moab, 435-259-2100, open daily year-round, Check with the BLM office for directions



**15- Grand Staircase-Escalante NM Interpretive Center** Opened in 2006, this visitor center was built in the form of an ammonite fossil (ancestor of the modern-day nautilus) and features local fossils from the late Cretaceous, with many actual fossils to see and touch. The dinosaur garden outside features life-size metal dinosaur, bird and mammal sculptures. 100 Upper Revolution Way, Big Water, 435-675-3200, [www.ut.blm.gov/monument](http://www.ut.blm.gov/monument), open daily mid-March to mid-Nov

**12- Cleveland-Lloyd Dinosaur Quarry** This quarry contains more Jurassic dinosaur bones per square yard than have been found anywhere else in the world! Bones of 74 individual dinosaurs have been excavated, of which 66% belong to the meat-eater Allosaurus, Utah's official state fossil. Since 1928, over 12,000 bones have been excavated, with several thousand more yet to be uncovered. Having recently undergone a million-dollar renovation, the visitor center houses fossil exhibits and the quarry shelter features upper and lower observation platforms for close viewing. Thirty-two miles south of Price on the San Rafael Swell, 435-636-3600, Google "BLM Cleveland Lloyd," open daily Memorial to Labor Day/weekends mid-March to Memorial Day and Labor Day to Oct. 31

**13- Dan O'Laurie Museum** This regional museum tells the story of Moab's and Grand County's past, featuring an extensive rock and mineral display and massive dinosaur bones. Adults and children alike will love the museum's "hands-on" policy with many of the displays. 118 East Center Street, Moab, 435-259-7985, [www.discovermoab.com/museums.htm](http://www.discovermoab.com/museums.htm), open year-round Mon–Sat

**14- The Dinosaur Museum, Blanding** Skeletons, fossilized skin, eggs, footprints, state-of-the-art graphics and beautifully realistic sculptures present dinosaurs from the Four Corners region and throughout the world. You will see exhibits which show how dinosaurs were distributed globally, as well as the latest in dinosaur skin research. Enjoy the displays of dinosaur eggs from around the world and the baby Protoceratops and Maiasaura sculptures. The museum also contains a history hall of Hollywood dinosaur movies with movie memorabilia from the silent classics all the way through the high tech dinosaur movies of today. 754 South 200 West, Blanding, 435-678-3454, [www.dinosaur-museum.org](http://www.dinosaur-museum.org), open Mon–Sat April 15–October 15

**16- St. George Dinosaur Discovery Site at Johnson Farm** Newly discovered in February 2000, it has been described as the most significant dinosaur tracksite in western North America, and houses some of the oldest and best preserved footprints in the world. Over 2,000 tracks made by a variety of early Jurassic dinosaurs are preserved in the exposed sandstone that formed 200 million years ago as lake sediment. The newly constructed shelter protects the tracks from the elements and houses fossil exhibits and a gift shop. 2180 E. Riverside, St. George, 435-574-3466, [www.dinotrax.com](http://www.dinotrax.com), open year-round Mon–Sat



For more detailed info about Utah paleontology:

Special thanks to James Kirkland PhD,  
Utah State Paleontologist

[geology.utah.gov](http://geology.utah.gov)

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- 2- BYU Earth Science Museum
- 3- Utah Museum of Natural History
- 4- Museum of Ancient Life at Thanksgiving Point
- 5- Dinosaur National Monument
- 6- Utah Field House of Natural History State Park Museum
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